
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5244

AN ACT CONCERNING COLLABORATIVE FUNDING AGREEMENTS AND THE STEM CELL RESEARCH PROGRAM.

SUMMARY:

This bill authorizes the public health commissioner to enter into agreements with states, foreign countries, and other entities to advance collaborative research opportunities for Stem Cell Research Fund grant recipients. By law, the commissioner chairs the Stem Cell Research Advisory Committee, which directs the commissioner in making annual grants from the fund to eligible institutions for embryonic and human adult stem cell research.

The bill specifies that grant recipients must comply with statutory conditions for stem cell research in the state, including, among other things:

1. consent requirements for prospective embryo donors,
2. standards for the use of human embryonic stem cell lines derived outside Connecticut,
3. oversight of in-state human embryonic stem cell research by embryonic stem cell review oversight committees, and
4. compliance with the National Academies' "Guidelines for Human Embryonic Stem Cell Research."

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2012

BACKGROUND

National Academies

The National Academies is an independent organization chartered by Congress to advise the government on scientific, engineering, and

health matters. In 2005, it released guidelines and recommendations for human embryonic stem cell research which are amended from time to time (most recently in 2010). These guidelines are intended for use by the scientific community, including researchers in academic, industry, or other private sector organizations.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 25 Nay 0 (03/09/2012)